

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated June 26, 2006. Claim 4 was indicated as allowable subject matter. Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,839,744 issued to Kloba et al. ("Kloba") in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,647,267 issued to Britt et al. ("Britt"). In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims.

Applicants have amended each of the independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 26. The limitations added to these independent claims are not taught or fairly suggested in the cited sections of Kloba and Britt, either alone or in combination with the remaining limitations of the respective independent claims. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all claims are patentably distinct over the cited sections of Kloba and Britt.

CONCLUSION

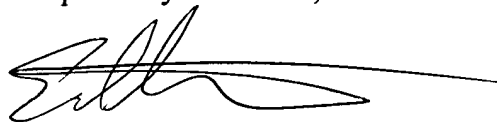
Applicant submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450, on September 26, 2006.

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

9/26/06  
Date of Signature

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